

SINKING OF A NATION



In discussions about ancient Greek democracy, the most often referenced text is the 'Politics' of Aristotle.

He believed that someone who is virtuous in ruling a democracy, must be able to put the common good above their own individual good.

He also believed that a democracy is a failure where the majority is poor and non-virtuous. This means that whomever is in office, and all have equal access to office because of democracy's concept of equality, may not act in the best interests of the State and its citizens.

Aristotle famously said: 'When there is no middle class, and the poor greatly exceed in number, troubles arise, and the State soon comes to an end'.

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FOREWORD

After spending two years with Commercial & Industrial Computer Services, a Deloitte & Touche subsidiary company specialising in computer software systems for the South African municipal and local government market, I suffered a stroke and was placed on permanent disability pension.

I had been appalled by the decline in morality and business ethics, which I experienced on my travels around South Africa in the Local Government environment. So, once confined under my disability conditions, I began writing the book 'Stepping Stones' which was published in South Africa in 2010 and later in America in 2014.

My concern was for the future of South Africa as a country, given the atrocious level of education evident in the young people encountered in my far-flung travels.

My writing started about the time Jacob Zuma took over the leadership of the ANC from Thabo Mbeki. Ten years later I have written some fifty published articles and nine books, all with the decline of South Africa under the ANC, as a backdrop.

This tenth publication 'Sinking of a Nation' includes all the articles written over those ten years and as such presents an historical chronology of the decline of our beloved nation from darling of the democratic world, to pariah and tenth most potent threat to world peace.

Rated now as economic junk, the most disparate nation on earth and a slime bath of kleptocracy, greed and corruption, the last ten years under Jacob Zuma and the captured ANC will go down as South Africa's most disgraceful decade in history.

As a result, my children, brought up to play in any multi-racial team, have been left sitting on the bench, while the side chosen loses match after match. These children, have, of necessity, sought to play for another side where their skills can be of best benefit to themselves and their young families.

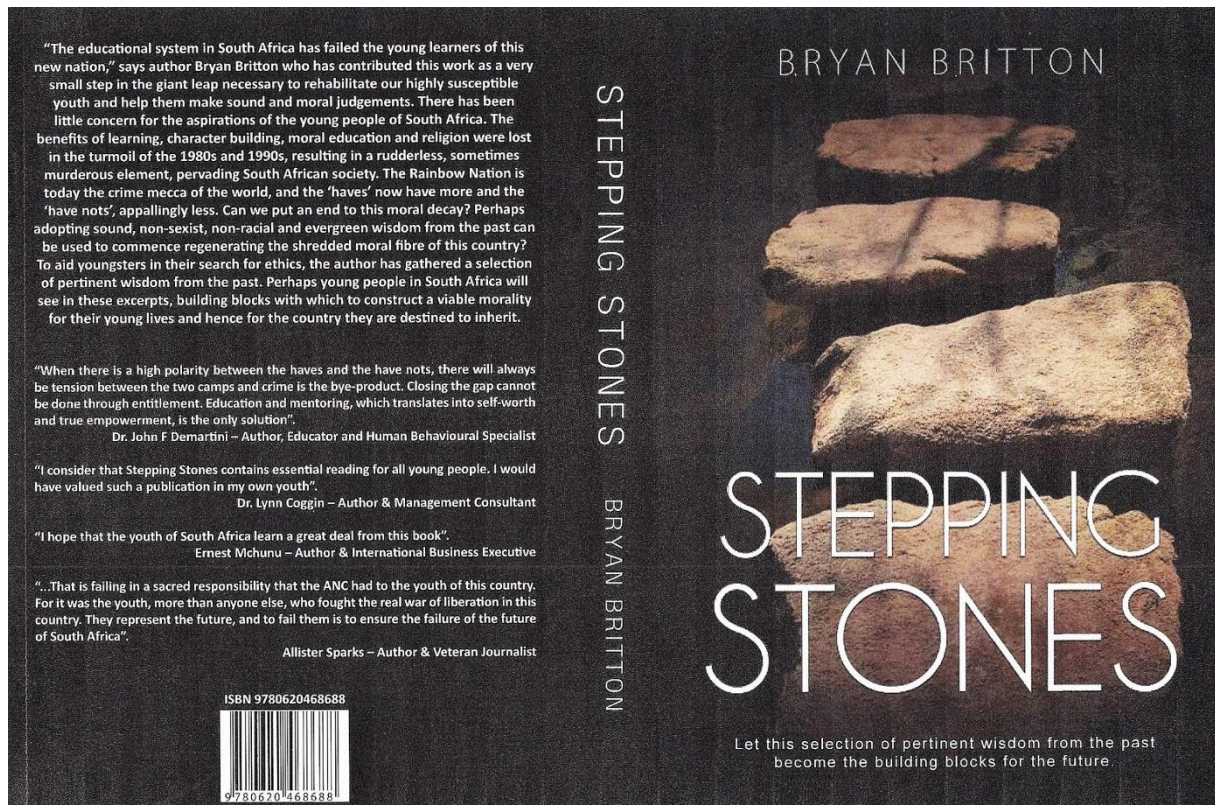
The Communist dogma in the ANC Bill of Rights, so revered, is outdated and not workable in modern society and presents no solution to the level of disparity in South Africa. Nelson Mandela would be appalled at the current South African democracy.

The African National Congress and the desperate citizens of this tormented country require an honest Messiah.

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STEPPING STONES

Published on June 12, 2010



The issue of morality in schools: I guess that refers to moral education in the classroom, in the system, or even in the home. When that issue does come up: in debates, in conferences or in books, the intent is somewhat nebulous. Most writers and speakers seem rather vague about the intended application of their offering: Are they providing structured guidance that can be used by educators in the classroom to awaken a moral sensitivity in the youth; or, are they just lamenting what is missing? Then I come across a book titled, *Stepping Stones*, by Bryan Britton. Published in 2010 and available from Xlibris, Loot, Amazon, Google, Kindle, Barnes & Noble and eBay.

This 'anthology of moral wisdom' is a well categorized collection of ethical common sense. And that's what I like about it. This book is not offering a trite technique to transcend temptation – there are enough self-help soft covers out there. This book is not a whiney whinge of what is not working; it is not a critical cacophony of complaints – there is enough senseless sensationalism out there. This book is not entirely neutral either; it is neither unbiased nor reserved – the author has his say.

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And that is what I like about the book.

It is a record of ancient, classical and contemporary moral quotes and anecdotes – a reminder of the lessons never learned. As the author states, “The benefits of learning, character building, moral education and religion were lost in the turmoil of the 1980s and 1990s, resulting in a rudderless, sometimes murderous element, pervading South African society.” Stepping Stones serves as a reminder – it serves as a silver lining. It tells us what we can and could – and it refrains from preachy prattle about what we shall and should.

That is why I enjoyed reading the book.

The structure and content of Stepping Stones • Ancient lessons: Includes the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Deadly Sins. • Classic lessons: Includes Buddha, Isaac Newton and Mahatma Gandhi. • Modern lessons: Includes Martin Luther King, Eckhart Tolle and John Demartini. • Youth topics: Includes success, happiness and education. • South African topics: Includes Nelson Mandela, evil managers and the youth.

Bryan Britton, was educated in South Africa, at Christian Brothers College and the University of the Witwatersrand, and has spent 40 years in the field of financial management. During this time, he was involved in a wide variety of industries, ranging from beverages, security, banking, design, advertising, venture capital, healthcare, auditing, stock-broking and software. Having suffered a stroke in 2005, he retired from active business and dedicated himself to writing on topics of youth, motivation and education.

The author has pledged 75% of the proceeds from the book to I Care. This non-profit organization is devoted to finding meaningful and sustainable solutions to the challenge of street children in South Africa. The over-riding motive is to change street kids from being dependent on society, into productive members of that society. I Care

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raises and channels funds into awareness, outreach, rehabilitation, housing/shelter and education.

I strongly urge teachers, learners and students (even the parents) to purchase a copy of Stepping Stones. The money goes for a good cause – and the content conveys a message we are all sorely lacking.

Janos Bozsik – Editor Education Southern Africa Magazine May 2011 Issue

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UMHLANGA ROCKS

Published on LinkedIn on April 12, 2015



Bryan Britton, author of the books 'Last Gasp', 'Stepping Stones, and 'A Bridge Too Far' has released a new work of fiction titled 'Umhlanga Rocks: sunny place for shady people' You can download a free copy at the following link:

<https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Umhlanga-Rocks>

Jacques Perot is an ex-executive turned beach bum living in the bohemian sub-tropical paradise known as Umhlanga Rocks. He finds new zest for life in meeting the lovely Linda, a newcomer to the village. By chance he uncovers a plot that can disturb the frivolity and fun of this unique place on the eastern shores of South Africa. Together with Captain de Villiers he unravels a plot that seems to lead to the Premiers of both South Africa and China. As the clock ticks down to the May 7, 2014 elections in South Africa, the two intrepid investigators with the help of the free press, attempt to bring the magnitude of the kleptocracy and neo-colonialism being perpetrated to attention of the South African voters.

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LAST GASP

Published on LinkedIn on December 25, 2015



Bryan Britton, author of the books 'Stepping Stones', 'A Bridge Too Far' and 'Umhlanga Rocks' has just released another novel called 'Last Gasp'.

The jury is out. The judgement is awaited. The tension is palpable. The journalists wait, pens poised, to see whether African Kleptocracy or Western Democracy will prevail. The importance of the judgement is that it will determine the future of South Africa and its citizens.

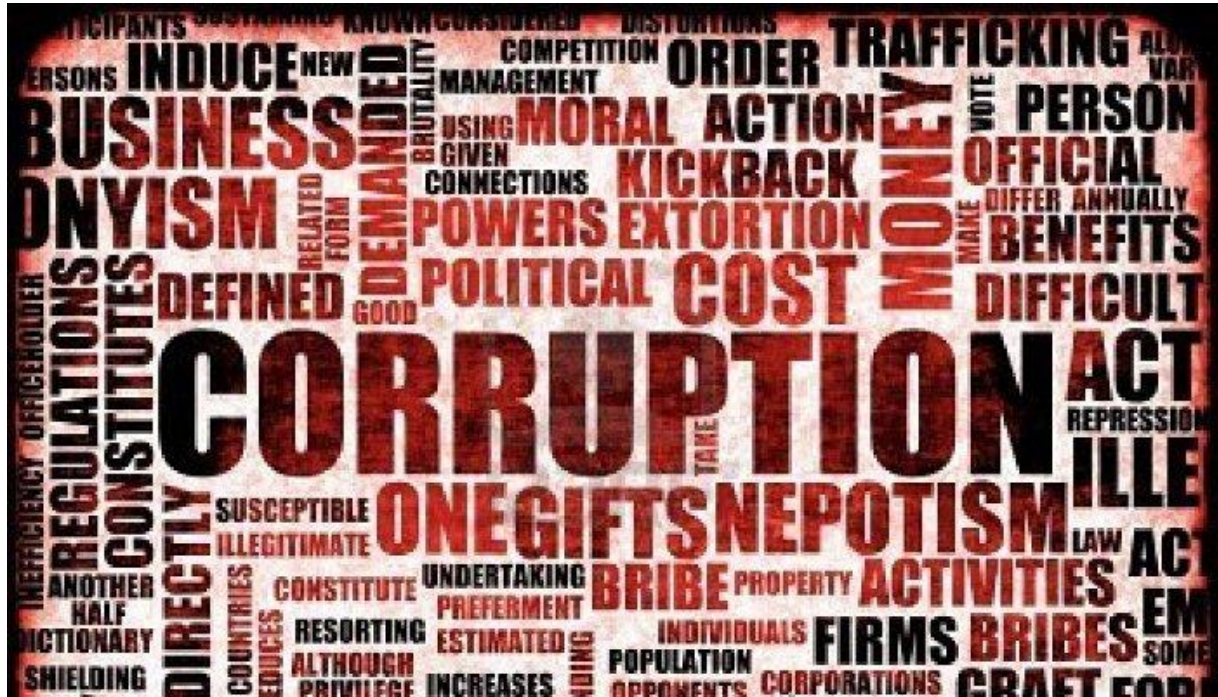
Over-dramatization? I think not. But while we wait what do the pundits say as the country teeters precariously on the edge of a fiscal cliff that may set it back twenty years.....or worse.

Get a free copy: <https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Last-Gasp>

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KLEPTOCRACY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Published on Linkedin on February 23, 2016



'Today it is regarded as one of the most corrupt countries in the world. In the past number of years, the leaders of this country have stolen more than two and a half trillion rand. The average citizen, on the other hand, today only receives about R100 in income per week.

Recently, administration has been making concerted efforts to tackle corruption. Ministers have been dismissed and the government is committed to change. The money is being ring-fenced to tackle poverty and this spending is very closely monitored. The government has committed that the money should go to the very poorest. The country, with the most dangerous slums in Africa, is seen as having the greatest natural resources on the continent. It is also the one with the highest potential for development.

One can be excused for thinking that we are talking here about South Africa.

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The country in question is, of course, Nigeria. South Africa has yet to go through the quagmire that is Nigeria's recent history; a history of untold shame, sorrow and suffering – all at the hands of the kleptocrats.

Kleptocracy derives from the Greek words kleptes, meaning 'thief', and kratos, meaning 'rule'. It is a word used to describe a government widely engaged in corruption to extend the personal wealth and political power of individuals in the ruling class.

A corrupt and dishonest government, characterised by greed, is described as kleptocratic. Such a government is typically run by rulers who are thieves and who pillage public funds to the detriment of the poor, sometimes without the pretence of offering any form of honest public service. These kleptocrats then exploit a country's natural resources for their own greedy benefit.

The money on which these evil managers of men prey is almost always funds earmarked for the building of public amenities, schools, hospitals, roads, parks and public facilities. Thus, the ordinary citizen is prejudiced, inconvenienced and deprived by these selfish kleptocrats.

The term 'kleptocrat' was first used in the 1960s to describe the activities of the ruler of the independent Congo, Colonel Joseph Mobutu, who plundered the rich natural resources of that country for his personal benefit. However, the term could equally have applied to his colonial predecessor, King Leopold II of Belgium. It is said that the megacity of Brussels, a European Union bastion, was built with the kleptocratic proceeds of the resources of the Congo Basin.

The story of Africa is one of the Europeans plundering the natural resources of the continent and then, when caught with their hands in the cookie jar, hastily effecting a democratic handover to the most likely African kleptocrat.

This book has urged you young South Africans to develop your own sense of right and wrong, your own morality, your own ethics and your own zone of indifference. This is in the absence of a reliable schooling and education system. It is a ploy of all kleptocrats known to man, to restrain the emerging youth from education, thus guaranteeing for themselves a stratum of humanity upon which to prey. Be warned.

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Be alert. Be careful. Be your own person and be democratic. It has taken Nigeria 40 years to learn this painful lesson.

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EVIL MANAGERS

Published on LinkedIn on March 1, 2016



This article is an extract from Bryan Britton's 2010 book – 'Stepping Stones'
<https://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Stepping-Stones>

I have pointed to the evil managers of men in several chapters in this book. These evil individuals are not always visible. They employ foot soldiers who carry out their work. You sometimes only find out about them from the results of their handiwork. They are often confused with a 'third force'. They create a mystery over their motivations. They live all over the world.

A recent tragedy, however, exposed the evil managers in a laboratory environment. By this I mean that the political motivations that we normally assume to be at play were in this instance, entirely absent. The tragedy, which occurred in Asia, was caused by a monsoon hurricane. The inhabitants of the area were mainly poor subsistence farmers, trying to eke out a living under extremely difficult circumstances. These poor farmers and their families were driven from their land by destructive winds, swiftly rising waters and rodents. The diseased rodents were also fleeing the floods. Housed in temporary camps, at least dry and warm, these poor villagers huddled around temporary fires recounting the tragic events, counting lives lost and pondering

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their hopeless future. At least for the moment they had food to sustain them. The food, courtesy of relief agencies, was sufficient to keep them alive for a couple of weeks, while they sought rehabilitation.

After two days the food ran out. Caring and embarrassed, the food agencies again arranged for food supplies to be flown in. To ensure proportionate distribution this time, they arranged vouchers to be distributed so that each family would be assured of their share. But after two days the food ran out once more. From this poor, tragedy-stricken community, the food donors had appointed a few individuals to distribute the food. These individuals had seen in the plight of their own community, an opportunity to uplift themselves. They had stolen the food. And they had stolen the vouchers.

The evil managers of men are not always third forces or agents of political beliefs or political chiefs. The evil managers of men reside in each one of us. It is our choice whether we hear the evil managers' voices that broadcast endless propaganda in our heads. It is our choice, every one of us; Black, White, Coloured, Asian, man, woman, Catholic, Muslim, Protestant, Hindu or Jew, whether we obey those broadcasts, or whether we silence those broadcasts with prayer, with thoughts of 'good' instead. Whether we silence those broadcasts with deeds and actions founded in compassion, mercy, love, understanding, forgiveness and a caring for our fellow man, and whether we become, instead, agents for 'good'. It is up to you, young man. It is up to you, young woman. God bless you in your quest.

"There is no fire like passion, there is no shark like hatred, there is no snare like folly, there is no torrent like greed."

— *Gautama Buddha*

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ALEX NOBLE

Published on LinkedIn on June 12, 2016



"If I have been of service, if I have glimpsed more of the nature and essence of ultimate good, if I am inspired to reach wider horizons of thought and action, if I am at peace with myself, it has been a successful day".

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MESSAGE TO THE YOUTH OF SOUTH AFRICA

Published on LinkedIn on March 19, 2016



The report card, since Mr Mandela's inauguration 16 years ago, is abysmal. Despite favourable worldwide economic conditions throughout this period and vastly improved collections by the Fiscus (through more of the country's emerging economically active population contributing) progress on the above key issues has at best been pedestrian, and at worst extremely regressive.

Our Parliament has been responsible for a litany of corrupt, self-serving and dubious decisions including the Travel Scandal, the HIV/Aids Debacle, the Arms Deal cover up, cover up of the Police Commissioner's shady dealings, silent support of a neighbouring tyrant, with the blood of his opponents still on his hands, turning of a blind eye on the illegal immigration problem and the soaring incidence of crime, which takes its lead from Parliament and infiltrates South African society, not only as an evil, but also as an arrogant entitlement.

All the while, the silent voters of South Africa have patiently and respectfully continued

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to wait for the better life that they were promised 16 long years ago. The audit trail also reveals crime, fraud and corruption amongst the new officers in national and provincial spheres of government and serious insolvency and bankruptcy in local government spheres. The legal system, as a result, is creaking under the strain of trying to maintain justice. A Constitutional Court aspirant is currently under suspicion of favouring a political contender and of accepting pecuniary inducement to favour a commercial enterprise. The jury is still out on this one but the last bastion of democracy, fair play and 'good' is about to be subverted. Watch this space.

In this regard, the moral stalwarts of the struggle, Madiba and Tutu, must be cringing at the behaviour of some of their fellow countrymen. The newly appointed group of leaders are not listening to their moral mentors, and should be setting the moral example for the youth of South Africa.

These are the challenges that you young Democrats, of whatever colour and persuasion, face in the not so new South Africa. Your challenge is not only to become productive taxpayers, but also to ensure that state funds are honestly allocated and used for upliftment of the poor, support of the infirm and aged, creation of self-sufficiency in the country, creation of a stable business environment, honest administration and so on. In pursuit of these moral objectives the perpetrators of elitism, sloth, greed and the rest of that ugly family of vices, should be rooted out, and voted out.

Icons of the struggle on the African continent against colonialism, racism, white domination and cultural oppression are to be admired and revered – and then committed to history. Their victories have been celebrated. The freedom that some died for has been attained. Now the surviving heroes must graciously bow out and hand over the spoils of war to the communities that they served.

They did not suffer for their own glorification and edification.

The history of Africa shows that when the oppressor leaves, he is replaced by an even greater oppressor. In South Africa, colonialism was replaced by apartheid, which has

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